12 September 1985

ARTICLE APPEARED ON PAGE A-11

Identity of Salvadoran Kidnappers Unknown

By JAMES LabsoyNE Special to The New York Times

SAN SALVADOR, Sept. 11— Salvadoran officials said today that the kidsappers of the daughter of President José Napoleon Duarte had not made contact with the Government and that their identity was unknown. The officials and Western diplomats

The officials and Western diplomats said they believed that leftist insugents were the most likely suspects, though they did not rule out the possibility that the kidneppers could be from the extreme right.

 President Reagan sent Mr. Duarte a message of support and offered whatever assistance the United States could provide.

Mr. Duarte, looking drawn, called for calm and promised to continue with the normal work of government.

the normal work of government.
"You know my feelings," he said. "I think the road of peace and understanding is always the best road and never the road of violence and death. I am, of course, deeply hurt with the the pain of a father who finds himself in this situation, but I also have a duty to the country and I am fuffilling it."

A team believed to include six armed men kidnapped Mr. Duarte's daughter, Inés Guadaiupe Duarte Durán, as she left a university here on Tuesday. One of her two bodyguards was killed in the attack and the other wounded. Miss Duarte, who is 35 years old, is the mother of three children. She is disposed.

The Minister of Communications, Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes, said in a news conference that four cars were stolen Tuesday before the kidnapping. He said that some of the car thieves had identified themselves as members of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front, an insurgent group.

The red Toyota van used by the kidnappers was one of the four cars stolen, and was later found abandoned, Mr. Rey Prendes said. There was no sign of blood in the vehicle, he added.

A classmate and friend of Miss Duarte, Ana Cecilia Villeda, is also believed to have been seized by the kidnappers, Mr. Rey Prendes said. An army officer said the police were investigating Miss Duarte's other classmates to see whether any might have been involved in planning the attack.

Mr. Rey Prendes refused to say whether the Government would be willing to negotiate with the kidnappers. He said the Government had asked the Roman Catholic Church to help. The church has served as an intermediary in prisoner exchanges in the past.

The police have set up checkpoints on some roads, and searches of neighborhoods are likely to begin today, according to a Government security official. A special investigations unit trained by the United States is in charge of the case, he added.

The kidnapping is being treated as an affair of state, but it is also a personal tragedy for President Duarte, who was especially close to his eldest daughter, according to friends of the family.

Mr. Duarte and his wife, also named Inés, have six children and have placed emphasis on family life, the friends said. Two of Mr. Duarte's sons who had been traveling abroad flew home today to be with their family, according to a Government official.

Mr. Duarte presided over a meeting of the Cabinet and his advisers to discuss the seizure and to hear messages of support and condolence from heads of state around the world. The message from President Reagan and his wife, Nancy, offered "heartfelt concern and prayers."

Mr. Reagan also promised to "make available to you and your security forces all appropriate assets of the United States Government that would be useful in this regard."

A Western official said such assets would most likely include technical assistance in carrying out ballistics tests and analysis of fingerprints and any other evidence collected by investigators. He added that the United States would also share any intelligence is might collect reasyding the kidnesping.

In the past, the Federal Bureau of a vestimation and the Central Intelligence Assucy have aided the Salvedran Government in specific investigations.